

OUR PUBLIC FORUM



Peter Radford On Church and State

The recent action of one of the leading churches of this nation, in annual convention, demanding that the laymen vote only for candidates for office whose views coincide with those of the clergy on one of the leading political issues, and direct and indirect efforts of other church organizations to interfere with the freedom of the ballot, make one of the greatest perils of this age, and present a problem that should receive thoughtful consideration of both laymen and citizens.

Suckling babes may well squirm in their cradles when ministers in convention assembled release the hearts of men and grab them by the throat, for Christianity has broken down, religion has become a farce and the pulpit a failure. When the church substitutes force for persuasion, command for conviction and coercion for reason, the sheriff had as well pass the sacrament, plain-clothes men take charge of the altar and policemen bury the dead, for why a church?

It is as dastardly a crime against government for a minister to undertake to deliver the votes of his parishioners to a candidate, as it is for a ward heeler to deliver a block of votes to a political boss, and both ought to be prosecuted, for the law should be no respecter of persons.

It is as objectionable for a convention of ministers to seek by canonical law to control the votes of church members as it would be for a convention of manufacturers to issue orders for their employees to vote for a certain candidate. Such conduct is offensive to decency, business morals and a crime against society. Any convention, whether composed of saints or sinners, rich or poor, white or black, that seeks to prostitute power and coerce conscience ought to be broken up by the police and its leaders arrested for treason.

A crime by any other name is a crime just the same. An ecclesiastical robe cannot sanctify treason, authority to preach does not carry with it license to become a political ringster, or the right to teach us how to pray give a permit to tell us how to vote. No man in joining the church should sacrifice his citizenship, forfeit his constitutional liberties or subordinate his duty to the state. The earth many times has been drenched with the blood of our forefathers fighting to throw off the ecclesiastical yoke from the state, and the suggestion of a return to these medieval conditions with their horror and their torture should not be tolerated for a moment.

Laws should be passed prohibiting any preacher, or combination of preachers, from delivering or attempting to deliver their membership or congregation to any candidate for office, and suitable legislation should be passed preserving the sanctity of the pulpit from political vandalism. It is as much a menace to church and state for a politician to occupy the pulpit as for a minister to preach a political sermon. He has no more right to preach his politics from the pulpit than a teacher has to teach his politics to his pupils. A preacher cannot make political trickery respectable by usage any more than he can make profanity respectable by practice. It is one of the ironies of fate that a preacher may become a scandal as well as a glory to civilization.

MANY FAIL IN GEOGRAPHY

Subject Would Appear to Be Distasteful to the Youthful Mind of America.

No single study, in school days, next to correct "reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic" is more important than geography. That boys and girls who enter business life should be so remiss in common every-day knowledge is regrettable. One who has traveled never forgets the places he visited, and maps may be dry things when one does not travel, but it requires little effort to memorize the more important place locations. As there is only one post office of like name in any one state it is easy to address a letter correctly if one knows what state.

There are many Springfield, the more important being in Massachusetts, Ohio and Illinois. There are numerous Washingtons, but only one Washington, D. C., the capital of the nation. New Orleans is in Louisiana, Boston in Massachusetts, Seattle in Washington (state). But where are the American cities of Bismarck, Boise (not Boise City), Moberly or Texarkana? Maybe these locations are tolerably well known, but what about the following: How do you spell Cincinnati? Try and finish it. Where is Westerville? What river, if any, separates the two Kansas cities? Is the Mississippi really muddy, or does the silt originate in some other stream? Which is the farthest west, Cape Blanco or Cape Flattery, and where are they? Is Portland, Ore., near the ocean? Is it on the Columbia river? Where do four states meet? All easy questions.

Nothing is so exasperating to a busy merchant or broker as to have his letters misdirected, or town mislocated. The boy should know.

MANY READY FOR THE JOB

Advertisement That Might Seem Beyond Reason Evidently Found Considerable Readers.

There is accumulating evidence that people read the advertising columns. The other night a man telephoned an advertisement for a man to drive a car to the coast, says the Phoenix (Ariz.) Republican. Though there is an easily recognizable difference between a car and a cow, it is not so distinguishable by telephone, and the young man in the office understood that the customer wanted a cow driven to Los Angeles. It did not occur to him that there was anything unusual in that means of transporting a cow so long a distance across the California desert.

It struck the linotype operator that this was a little out of the ordinary, but the operator, having not yet taken out his annual city and county license to change advertising copy, followed it.

Two days later the advertiser telephoned again, this time for emendation, correction and relief. He said that since the appearance of the advertisement thirty men had called on him to get the job of driving that cow. Many offered to back themselves with testimonials as to their proficiency in the art of handling cattle. Some offered to furnish guarantees that they would land the cow in Los Angeles some time before Christmas.

D. R. Davenport makes Farm Loans on best terms

SWISS HOTELS WONDROUS

Stand in Solitary Grandeur, But Lack Nothing That Makes for Comfort of Traveler.

You may climb up the heights by the aid of railways, funiculars, racks-and-pinions, diligences and sledges, and when nothing but your own feet will take you any further you will see in Switzerland a grand hotel, magically and incredibly raised aloft in the mountains.

It is solitary—no town, no houses, nothing but this hotel hemmed in on all sides by snowy crags and made impregnable by precipices and treacherous snow and ice.

At the great redrawing of the map of Europe, when the lesser nationalities are to disappear, the Switzers will take armed refuge in their farthest grand hotels and there defy the mandates of the concert.

For the hotel, no matter how remote it be, lacks nothing that is mentioned in the dictionary of comfort. Beyond its walls your life is not worth twelve hours' purchase.

You would not die of hunger, because you would perish of cold.

At best you might hit on some peasant's cottage in which the standards of existence had not changed for a century.

But once pass within the portals of the grand hotel, and you become the spoiled darling of an intricate organization that laughs at mountains, avalanches and frost.

ONE OF NATURE'S MARVELS

Great Stone Face of the Pyrenees Has Entranced Artists From All Parts of the World.

There is probably no more remarkably example of natural statuary in the world than the famous stone face of the Pyrenees, in Spain. The elevation stands alone, surrounded by valleys so that the profile dominates the skyline for many miles.

The chin is firmly modeled, while the lips seem to be tightly compressed. The line representing the nose is drawn with a strong bold stroke, giving it a truly Castilian character.

The mountain with this singular contour rises so high above the surrounding country that it may be seen for many miles. It is, besides, modeled on such heroic lines that the appearance of foliage, even the growth of forest, does not alter the lifelike appearance throughout the seasons.

The Moral Life.

Moral principle is not thinking the right thing, but doing it. It is giving 16 ounces to the pound and 36 inches to the yard. It is treating your neighbor kindly. It is not worrying others.

There are some people who pride themselves on holding to high moral principle, who are an exceeding, great annoyance to the people they meet. Of all the unprincipled things in this world, making people unhappy is the meanest. Yet there are many people who are sticklers to moral duty, doing that very thing every day. He is a mean thief who will take from another his peace of mind. One man told us he didn't sleep a whole night because of a needless remark a thoughtless friend made to him. There are many people who are such confirmed materialists that they think you can only do harm to a man by hitting him with a club or stealing his chickens. They don't seem to know there is a mental and spiritual world, where all real feeling dwells and where the deepest torture may be inflicted.—Ohio State Journal.

LED EVENTS ON THE FAST ONE-MILE TRACK AT THE MISSOURI STATE FAIR GROUNDS ALWAYS FILL THE CAPACIOUS GRANDSTAND.



Speed events at the Missouri State Fair never fail to fill the great steel and concrete grandstand to overflowing, and not alone are the speed events on the state's fast mile track at Sedalia big drawing cards during fair week, but the other attractions that are staged there, the exhibition of the finest aggregation of saddle horses

that any state or other fair boasts, the automobile races, the parade of the grand champion and sweepstakes winners in the livestock classes, always send the huge crowd scurrying to the grandstand to secure points of vantage to witness whatever may be going on out on the race track. Clean,

honest racing events will be staged at Sedalia from September 25 to October 2 this year, just as in the past, and State Fair crowds are sure to see some thrilling bursts of speed both among the race horses and the racing automobiles that will hold away on the track during fair week.

OUR PUBLIC FORUM



Hon. Elihu Root On Woman's Sphere

The question of Woman Suffrage is an issue before the American people. Twelve states have adopted it, four more states vote upon it this fall and it is strongly urged that it become a platform demand of the national political parties. It is therefore the privilege and the duty of every voter to study carefully this subject. Hon. Elihu Root, in discussing this question before the constitutional convention of New York, recently said in part:

"I am opposed to the granting of suffrage to women, because I believe that it would be a loss to women, to all women and to every woman; and because I believe it would be an injury to the state, and to every man and every woman in the state. It would be useless to argue this if the right of suffrage were a natural right. If it were a natural right, then women should have it though the heavens fall. But if there be any one thing settled in the long discussion of this subject, it is that suffrage is not a natural right, but is simply a means of government, and the sole question to be discussed is whether government by the suffrage of men and women will be better government than by the suffrage of men alone.

"Into my judgment, sir, there enters no element of the inferiority of woman. It is not that woman is inferior to man, but it is that woman is different from man; that in the distribution of powers, of capacities, of qualities, our Maker has created man adapted to the performance of certain functions in the economy of nature and society, and woman adapted to the performance of other functions.

"Woman rules today by the sweet and noble influences of her character. Put woman into the arena of conflict and she abandons these great weapons which control the world, and she takes into her hands, feeble and nerveless for strife, weapons with which she is unfamiliar and which she is unable to wield. Woman in strife becomes hard, harsh, unlovable, repulsive; as far removed from that gentle creature to whom we all owe allegiance and to whom we confess submission, as the heaven is removed from the earth.

"The whole science of government is the science of protecting life and liberty and the pursuit of happiness. In the divine distribution of powers, the duty and the right of protection rests with the male. It is so throughout nature. It is so with men, and I, for one, will never consent to part with the divine right of protecting my wife, my daughter, the women whom I love, and the women whom I respect, exercising the birthright of man, and place that high duty in the weak and nerveless hands of those designed by God to be protected rather than to engage in the stern warfare of government. In my judgment, this whole movement arises from a false conception of the duty and of the right of both men and women.

"The time will never come when the line of demarcation between the functions of the two sexes will be broken down. I believe it to be false philosophy; I believe that it is an attempt to turn backward upon the line of social development, and that if the step ever be taken, we go centuries backward on the march towards a higher, nobler and purer civilization, which must be found not in the confusion, but in the higher differentiation of the sexes."

Women and Law.

"In their passionate desire for the public good," says Margaret Deland, the novelist, "women seem to have more heart and less head than men. They seem to be more single minded, but with all their earnestness there is a sentimentality, a lawlessness, an emotional shallowness, a lack of thoroughness in the way in which they approach public questions which, quite apart from the question of doubling the irresponsible vote, makes the matter of their exercising the suffrage alarming.

"And in nothing is their shallowness more alarming than in their indifference to law. The most majestic thing humanity has evolved is surely the abstraction called law.

"That the administration of law is defective is neither here nor there. Of course it is defective, but the idea itself, law itself, terrible and glorious, is the wonder of time.

"That we, poor 'agglutinations of dust,' as Stevenson calls us, that we should have evolved law surely shows us to be part of the Eternal Law that is named God."

Find a Tusk Nine Feet Long.

Doctor Andrews of the British museum, with a staff of assistants, is busily excavating in the Upnor hills the most complete set of mammoth remains so far unearthed in England.

The professor has yet to determine whether the bones belong to the mammoth or the elephant antiquus. The teeth alone will furnish the necessary evidence upon this point, and the portion of earth where the skull lies embedded has not yet been delved in except so far as to disclose the presence of a tusk measuring some nine feet in length.

MAINE MAN WEARS TIN HAT

Natty Headpiece, But Not Likely to Be Adopted as the Popular Mode.

The latest innovation in men's apparel has been sprung by W. H. Whiting of Jonesboro, Me. It is a tin hat, with a band made of copper. He fashioned the natty headpiece himself. It is not only very light in weight, but he claims that it is cheaper than a straw "bonnet," lasts longer and is absolutely rainproof.

Whiting's tin hat has a luster all its own, something that takes the shine off all other hats. It is more showy than Mambrino's helmet, made famous by Don Quixote. Whiting's hat is made of tin, common sheet tin, the same kind of tin that baked beans and sardines and tomatoes are put up in.

It is built on a 1915 model, and no fashionable youth of the town can "put anything over" on him in the matter of style. It is neat, but not gaudy, a tin body with a copper band, not quite as brilliant as a ribbon with college colors, but more substantial and quite as attractive. At least, it attracts plenty of attention when Whiting wears it on the streets.—Boston Post.

A French Story.

A leading light of the Parisian bar was deprived of Gaston, his butler, by the mobilization. Gaston has returned, decorated with the Legion of Honor and exempted from further military service because of an incapacitating wound that does not, however, interfere with the exercise of his calling. His place has been kept for him, but his return plunged the barrister into a perplexing embarrassment.

While Gaston wears the red ribbon, there were among the habitual guests of the house a number of eminent members of the bar whose buttonholes are entitled to nothing but flowers. The proprieties and all rules of precedence were contrary to the idea of a Legion of Honor man serving one not decorated.

The judge refused to part with his servant and solved the problem by deciding that none but Legion of Honor men should eat at his table.

Dogs Are Wise.

Darwin P. Kingsley, president of the New York Life Insurance company and also of the Safety First Federation of America, in accepting the presidency of the latter body, said: "The old way of crossing a street will no longer do; it is dangerous. A dog no longer runs against or under an automobile as he did when they first appeared. He has changed his whole attitude toward street traffic. The average man has not changed. . . . On the other hand, the traffic as against the pedestrian has grown aggressive and careless." The federation was organized a few weeks ago by a convention attended by delegates from 14 states.

New Yorkers Are Milk Drinkers.

Milk is becoming the favorite drink of residents of New York city, according to recent statistics of the health department, and the number of licensed saloons is decreasing. It is reported that the consumption of milk has increased in the city 50 per cent in ten years.